Never Sheathe the Sword Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's Fight to the Last!

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JAPANESE PREPARED FOR VICTORY EFFORT IN NEW YEAR OF WAR

Prime Minister Issues Inspiring Message Pledging More Intensive Action

THANKS EXTENDED ALLIES

Empire Firmly United and in Battle Array to Realize Glorious Aims

"The 100 million of Japan have assumed battle positions," declares Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo in his inspiring New Year Message to the nation. Extending the heartfelt gratitude of Japan to her Allies in Europe who are fighting side-by-side to smash Anglo-American imperialism forever, as well as to the countries and races in Greater East Asia who are making devoted efforts for the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia and the realization of a Greater East Asia, our fighting leader repledges this nation to all-out endeavors of "devoting ourselves to the cause of loyalty and to lead the current war to a complete triumph by smashing ambitious America and Britain."

The Prime Minister's Message follows:

"It gives us, 100 million people of Japan, now on the threshold of the 19th year of Showa, genuine pleasure to pray for boundless longevity of His Majesty the Emperor and for the eternal prosperity of the Imperial Family as well as for a flourishing future of the Empire.

"Two years have elapsed since the Imperial Rescript Declaring War on the United States and Britain was issued during which period the Imperial Fighting Services have fought valiantly under the August Virtues of His Imperial Majesty while the people on the home front have exerted unstinted efforts for the successful prosecution of the war. By virtue of this, the Imperial Prestige has been enhanced far and wide throughout the world and the Imperial Ideals for the construction of Greater East Asia and the establishment of world peace have steadily been translated into realities.

"The object of the War of Greater East Asia is, as is clarified in the Imperial War Rescript, to maintain the Empire's existence and self defense thereby to insure the stability of East Asia and to establish a new world order wherein all nations may enjoy common prosperity. This objective has its origin in the grand ideals that guided this country's national founding and is, in itself the common ideal of the one billion peoples of Greater East Asia.

"The Greater East Asia Joint Declaration, solemnly adopted at the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations is a statement exactly expressing the common aspirations of all East Asiatics.

Japan's Fronts United

"Nothing can overwhelm justice. The members of the Imperial Forces determined to live forever as loyal subjects of the Sovereign, never hesitate to make daring attacks against the enemy though their lives be at stake while, on the home front, the 100 million people who have bound themselves in an ever tighter bond as hardships increase, devote themselves to the task of increasing the nation's fighting strength with ever high morale. In this respect, there is a world of difference between our Empire and our enemies, America and Britain.

"The war situation has now reached its climax in severity with the Anglo-Americans launching fretful, desperate counter-offensives. The success or failure of the Greater East Asia War and the construction of Greater East Asia hinges upon our successful destruction of these counter-attacks and for this purpose, the 100 million of Japan have assumed battle position. There is no longer any difference between the fighting front and the home front. The entire nation, determined to discharge their duty as the "humble shield of the Throne," are devoting every ounce of energy to the destruction of the enemy.

"The Japanese national polity is characterized by the subjects devotedly rallying under the Sovereign seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal and herein lies the supreme quality of the Empire over all other countries of the world. The Japanese people are characterized by their traditional principle of discarding all thoughts

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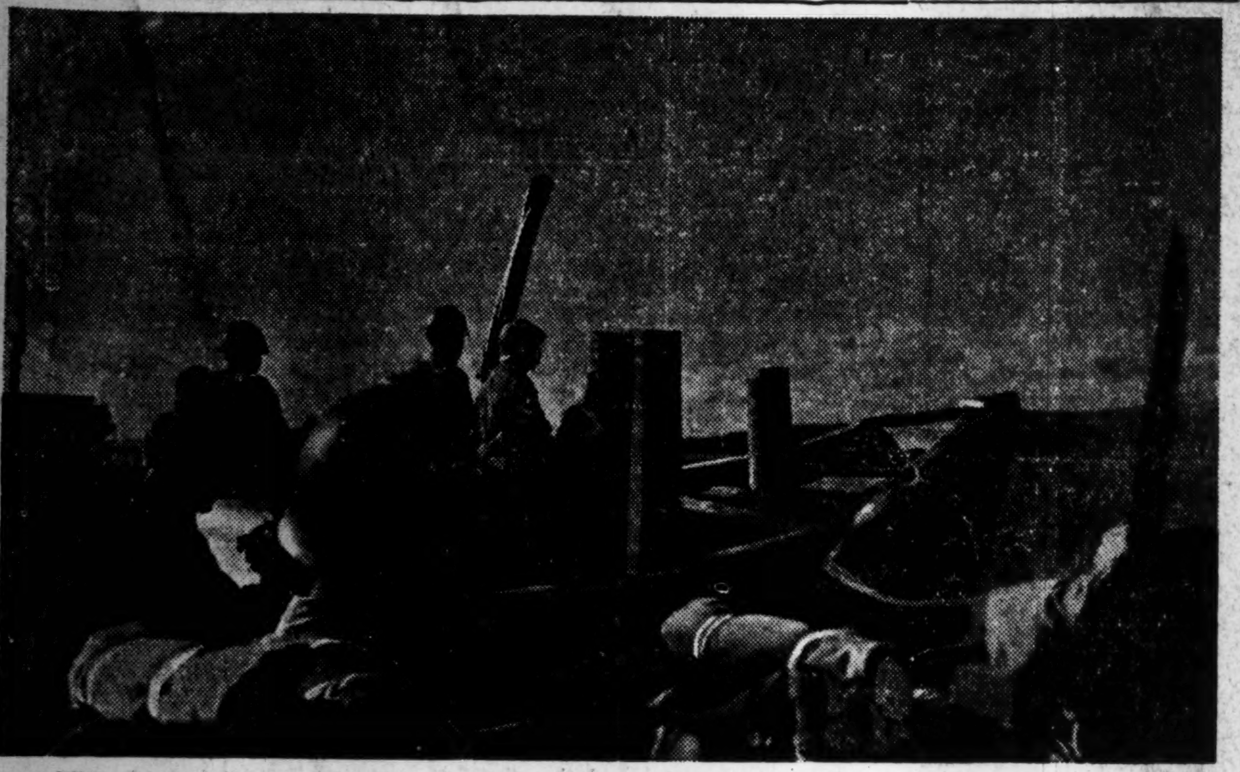
Imperial Landing Forces Face Foe



With the Sun Banner leading the way, a Unit of the Japanese Forces, fighting on the Southern Front, point the prow of their barges toward enemy-defended terrain.
(Photo by courtesy of the War Ministry)

EAST ASIA BUILDING NEW WORLD ORDER

Asia Affairs Minister Aoki Reviews Epochal Events Accomplished During 1943

Apart from the great victories achieved by the Imperial Land, Sea and Air Forces, Japan scored brilliant results in the field of diplomacy as seen in the independence granted to Burma and the Philippines, declared Kazuo Aoki, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, in a New Year's message.

Asserting that the Assembly of the Greater East Asiatic Nations held in November in Tokyo was the crowning achievement in solidifying the nations of Greater East Asia, Minister Aoki stated that with the people now liberated from Anglo-Saxon yoke, Greater East Asia is all and in one brotherhood marching toward creating the New World Order in this region.

Following is Minister Aoki's message:

"In welcoming the New Year, I wish for the gracious happiness of His Majesty the Emperor and pray for victory of the war as well as for the prosperity of all the nations of Greater East Asia.

"The passing year was full of fierce battles on land, sea and air as well as in the field of diplomacy. It was a year pregnant with events of tremendous importance. Our moral diplomacy was especially fruitful during the year.

"We have seen independence secured by two of our friendly nations; namely, Burma and the Philippines, Thailand has recovered her lost territories, while the Indonesians were given the right of administrative participation. The Provisional Government of Free India was established. Thus, the work of construction based upon moral ideals has been steadily carried out.

"The Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations held in Tokyo on November 5 and 6 was a splendid achievement testifying to the unshakable unity of the nations composing Greater East Asia, and the Joint Declaration adopted by the Assembly was the expression of the determination of the one-billion peoples of the area for their emancipation from the Anglo-Saxon yoke and to create a New World Order.

"The War of Greater East Asia has entered its third year and is bound to become keener than ever in every respect. It is likely that its final stage will be reached before long.

"We should first of all expand our fighting power and consolidate the unity of the peoples of Greater East Asia and at the same time bring ourselves into closer relations with Germany and other Allies in Europe, in order to crush the ambitions of the Anglo-Americans for world domination so that the supreme aim of the war may be attained."

U-Boats Sink U.S. Ship

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 30.—The United States Navy Department announced today that in the middle of September one medium-sized American merchant vessel was sunk in the Carribean Sea by Axis submarines according to Washington reports. The survivors landed at Miami, Florida.

Stunning Japanese Victories Compel America to Switch Naval Policy

Plane Carrier First Principle Stressed as Imperialistic U.S. Dreams in East Asia Fade in Counter-Drive Along Road to Hell

By TSUNEMICHI GOTO
Of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters

With the War of Greater East Asia entering its third year, the war situation has become particularly strained as the enemy has intensified his counter-offensive operations.

Bloody strifes are at present developing in the Cape Merkus area on New Britain Island, at Cape Torokina on Bougainville Island of the Solomons Group and in the Gilbert Islands. The operations launched by the anti-Axis forces in these areas reflect the persistent and vigorous enemy plans of counter-offensive. On the other hand, they indicate a change in America's naval policy.

How a certain country regards naval warfare, in what way it considers a naval battle should be waged and how it understands the subject of sea battles are best explained by that country's naval strategy when it actually participates in a war and are also reflected in its armament during peacetime. The study and understanding, therefore, of one country's naval policy gives us a clue to that country's strategic moves. Herein lies the importance of the study of other countries' conceptions vis-a-vis naval warfare.

The United States entered the current war with the "big ship, big gun" policy. This policy stresses warships strong in offensive as well as defensive capacity, as the main strength of a fleet. The same principle has gained supremacy because the records of many naval battles show that a fleet strong both in defensive and offensive capacity, that is, thickly built and equipped with big guns, invariably proved the winner.

Becomes Basic Policy

The tendency to build ever bigger ships and the development of ship-building technique spurred this "big ship, big gun" principle until it has become the basic policy in the naval armament of all Powers.

This policy is based on the "big-gun-battleship" principle. The first battleship to be built on the big-gun-battleship principle was the Dreadnought of the British navy which was launched in 1906. The British naval authorities constructed the Dreadnought in view of the amazing offensive capacity displayed by Japanese battleships of the Mikasa-class in the Japan Sea Battle. This British battleship displaced 17,900 tons and had the speed of 21 knots per hour. It was equipped with 10 12-inch guns, 24 three-inch guns and five torpedo-tubes. We cannot but be amazed to learn that the Mikasa, which had been built only three years before displaced only 15,362 tons, had the speed of 18 knots per hour and was equipped with four 12-inch guns, 14 six-inch guns, 40 small-sized guns and four torpedo-tubes.

The appearance of the Dreadnought astounded the world at that time and reduced the standing battleships of various naval Powers to the status of out-moded vessels.

The Japanese cruiser, Tsukuba, 13,750 tons, which had been launched in 1905, one year prior to the construction of the Dreadnought, was the first cruiser in the world to be equipped with four 12-inch guns. Thus, all navies of the world started building Dreadnought-class battleships and cruisers. Later, the caliber of guns steadily increased to 16 inches and the size of ships also increased until the Washington Naval Conference, immediately before which the British navy had planned the building of 48,000-ton cruisers.

The "big ship, big gun" principle thus became an iron rule and the naval battles in first World War were fought on this policy. Even the appearance of submarines and aircraft did not affect this principle.

Pacific Seen Vital

America's intention of building a big navy was first expounded by President Theodore Roosevelt, who maintained that the success or failure to rule the Pacific would decide America's destiny and that the 20th century was the age of the Pacific.

These utterances of Roosevelt resulted in the strengthening of the U.S. Pacific fleet and consequently in the construction of a big American navy. Needless to say, this big navy was built on the basis of the "big ship, big gun" principle and its construction was for America's economic prosperity. "Without the command of the sea, there cannot be commercial prosperity," was the words of Captain Mahan as expressed in his famous "Naval Strategy."

On August 15, 1919, the Panama Canal was completed, enabling the big U.S. navy to concentrate either in the Pacific or in the Atlantic with amazing rapidity. America's naval fervor ran high and the Yankees began to plan the biggest navy in the world.

Craftily enticing war-torn Britain, the United States held the Washington and London Conferences and established the 5-5-3 naval ratio among America, Britain and Japan. The United States established a No. 1 navy for herself through cunning political machinations.

The "naval holiday" thus began and on January 1 of 1937, it came to amend, ushering in the non treaty era. Immediately after the commencement of the non-treaty period, the U.S. navy possessed the following main strength:

15 capital ships aggregating 464,300 tons
(two ships totaling 70,000 tons yet to be built)
Three aircraft carriers aggregating 80,500 tons
(three carriers totaling 51,500 tons under construction))

Prior to this, Franklin Roosevelt, the present President, who was a big-navy advocate, wanted to increase the U.S. navy up to the treaty level and in 1933, just after his nomination as President, undertook to have 32 warships totaling 120,000 tons built with the expenditure of $238,000,000 defrayed from the industrial rehabilitation fund. In 1934, the first Vinson Plan was worked out in order to increase the U.S. navy up to the treaty limit. This plan provided for the construction of six capital ships and 96 auxiliary ships totaling 430,000 tons.

With the advent of the non-treaty period in 1937 and the outbreak of

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ALL ASIATICS ENTER NEW YEAR PREPARED TO SMASH ANTI-AXIS

Await Enemy's Counter-offensive as Chance to Deal Mortal Blow to Foe

GERMANS SEEN READY TOO

Anglo-U.S. Leaders Greet 1944 Harrowed With Anguish Despite Loud Boasts

By LIEUTENANT-COLONEL KATSUMI SASAKI
Staff Member of the Army Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters

Much fun was derived from two catch-phrases hoisted in the United States at the end of last year. One was the national slogan, "Don't give Japan time." The other was Roosevelt's bombast, "Rabaul will be our Christmas present."

The slogan is the enemy's cry of alarm over the robust growth of Japan's fighting strength following the rapid progress of her construction program in the occupied areas of the South. Roosevelt's magniloquence may be taken as his confession that he, as the author of the war, is harrowed by crucial anguish growing from the alarm.

Driven by fretful impatience, the Anglo-American war leaders are making frantic, foolhardy counter-offensive attempts in utter disregard of the sacrifice to their peoples, who are scrupulously kept in the dark as to the costs such attempts are entailing.

The joke in the whole picture is that a week has gone by since Christmas, but the promised present has not been forthcoming.

During a short period of only [illegible] days between December 15, when an American force barely reached a corner of New Britain Island, and December 23, more than 120 American warships, transports, and other craft have been lost due to the relentless attacks by our Air Units. With those ships went down several score thousands of officers and men of the United States force. Roosevelt's promised Christmas gift went, not to the American citizens, but to the finny tribes of the southern waters. Are the American people fully aware of this awful fact?

Roosevelt may indulge in his favorite game of making pompous boasts and preposterous promises, but the American public surely cannot be fooled indefinitely.

II

Hold Many Conferences

The Anglo-American leaders met in conferences as often as five times last year. The object of these conferences was to discuss a general counter-offensive against Japan and a Second Front against Germany. With ostentatious moves and blatant gestures Roosevelt and Churchill indulged in an orgy of publicity stunts at Washington, Casablanca, Quebec, Cairo, and Teheran.

In a radio speech delivered from his Hyde Park residence on Christmas Eve, Roosevelt, referring to these conferences, boasted that the anti-Axis countries had decided upon a gradual narrowing down of their encirclement against Japan He then sounded a gloomy note by warning the people that huge sacrifices awaited the American forces, thus trying to spread a smoke-screen over the frightful losses to date, and to prepare his people for the unavoidable enormous costs of future fighting.

A review of the so-called Anglo-American counter-offensive may be made. In the year and a half since the counter-thrust into Guadalcanal Island in the summer of 1942, up to the end of 1943, all that the enemy had gained were the Solomons in the south, Attu and Kiska in the north, and two islands in the Gilbert group in the mid-Pacific—and all this at the price of over 400,000 troops and countless sea and aircraft.

The counter-attack against Burma between the end of 1942 and May, 1943, ended in the tragedy of Arakan with the annihilation of the participating Anglo-Indian forces. Chiang Kai-shek's armies were forestalled in their maneuvers and driven to the eastern bank of the Nu River in the Yunnan campaign by the Japanese Forces in October last year.

While the American and Australian forces continue to incur appalling sacrifices on the New Guinea and Solomon fronts, the British do no more than sit back and bluster

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NEW YEAR MESSAGE

By MAMORU SHIGEMITSU
Minister for Foreign Affairs

We greet the glorious New Year, the 2604th year in the history of the Japanese Empire, in the midst of the War of Greater East Asia. I feel keenly the increasing weightiness of the responsibility in the conduct of the Empire's foreign policy in these times of national crisis unprecedented in her history.

The first year of the war was marked by the overthrow of all the enemy's bastions in Greater East Asia, the expulsion of aggressive Anglo-American influences therefrom and the liberation, militarily, of that region from the Anglo-American yoke.

In the second year, the enemy, recovering gradually from his successive defeats and set on aggression anew, made tenacious attempts to strike back at us by falling back on his rich resources and huge productivity.

Significant events marking steady progress in the task of building up Greater East Asia were witnessed in the same year. Principal among these events were China's declaration of war on the United States and Britain, the retrocession of the concessions and the International Settlement in China, the attainment of independence by Burma and the Philippines, the granting of participation to the Indonesians in government, the emergence of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the according of recognition to it by Japan and other Powers, and the conclusion of the Pact of Alliance between Japan and China.

The third year will see the enemy stir and agitate with increased vim to put through his inordinate ambition of aggression anew against East Asia. Japan will dash forward toward realizing world peace founded on the moral principles proclaimed to the world in the Greater East Asia Declaration. She will strive to solidify still further the ties of unity with the peoples of East Asia on the basis of reciprocity and equality and bend all her energy to smashing the Anglo-American counter-offensive and perfecting the defense of Greater East Asia, our homeland.

The five basic principles enunciated in the Greater East Asia Declaration stand for Japan's world policy of enabling all the peoples to have each its proper status and enjoy well-being—a policy inspired by the ideal that guided her national founding. The keynote of this policy consists in five points.

Restore Asia to Asiatics

In the first place, Asia should not return to the status of colony or quasi-colony of the Anglo-Saxons. Asia should be restored to the Asiatics. The various Powers of the West were permitted to perpetrate aggression and exploitation in Asia just because they were a step advanced in material civilization over the Asiatics. There was no other reason. Whether in spiritual civilization or in racial progress, Asia was definitely not behind the West.

While the Asiatics, unfortunately, lived in indolence and remained blind to the progress in other parts of the world, Asia was partitioned by the Western Powers and placed under subjection to them. Asia's brilliant tradition was ignored, its cultural and creative spirit held under suppression and the Asiatics were deprived of their dignity and pride. More recently, Asia's very existence was menaced, when Japan rose resolutely to sweep away Anglo-American influences and to build up a New Asia. That is the real significance of the War of Greater East Asia.

This significance is manifested in Japan's action in abolishing all unequal treaties with China and in agreeing to the general withdrawal of her troops from China when peace has been restored. No less concrete manifestation is to be found in the birth of an independent Burma and the Philippines, the recognition of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, the granting of participation to the Indonesians in government. While the complete emancipation of Asia is still remote, none doubts that the War of Greater East Asia is a sacred campaign for this very cause.

The second point is the ideal of construction. When liberation dawns, Asia should rise again to build up a New Asia. For this purpose, the oppressed peoples of all Asia should regain their sovereignty and independence and respect one another's regained sovereignty and independence, thereby establishing relations among nations based on political equity and economic reciprocity. Only in this way can international relations of good neighborliness be set up.

The third point is that the emancipated land should be defended against aggression and exploitation anew from without. The defense of East Asia means the defense of our homeland, of Asia's culture. It is in this spirit that the Greater East Asia Declaration emphasizes respect for East Asia's tradition and the enhancement of culture.

Proper Status for Everyone

It requires no reiteration that the guiding principle of our foreign policy is to enable all the peoples to have each its proper status. The Greater East Asia Declaration, as has already been stated, originates in this grand national policy of ours. Japan is dedicated to the ideal of enjoying well-being and prosperity in common with all the peoples of the world. As a practical question, however, the world is politically too large for the building up of a world-wide common prosperity region to be immediately possible. Herein lies the meaning of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Region, which, in its conception, is based on practical and political considerations, on the racial and cultural affinities among the peoples of Greater East Asia and geographical proximity. The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Region, then, represents a practical policy; it is not the full embodiment of Japan's ideal.

The world should not be held under exclusive domination by specific nations, for instance the Anglo-Saxons. The only alternative to prevent exclusive domination of the world is for peoples sharing racial and cultural affinities and placed in geographical propinquity to group themselves and build up zones of mutual help and common well-being. In this sense, the present era may be called an era of regionalism.

The fourth point is that the principle of freedom and open-door in the fields of economy and culture should be universally practised. Accordingly, we advocate the throwing open of resources, freedom of trade and cultural interchange and the freedom of the seas.

Fifthly, international relations not only in Greater East Asia but the world over should be governed by the principles of equality and live and let live, irrespective of the size or strength of nations. By the same token, we insist on the equality of races. Instances of Anglo-American racial prejudice are legion. The more notable of them are to be found in the White Australia policy, the exclusion of the colored races in South Africa, the anti-colored immigrant questions and the lynching of Negroes in the United States. Such racial discrimination not only is a blot on civilization but, indeed, constitutes a grave political issue. Without the breaking down of racial discrimination, there can be no emancipation of Asia, no peace of the world.

I have thus far dwelt on the meaning of the Greater East Asia Declaration. What are our enemies, the United States and Britain, thinking about? To begin with, the current world war is the largest-scale war of imperialism that the Anglo-Americans have waged on the rest of mankind. The United States, in particular, not content with placing the continents of North and South America under her domination, intervened in the affairs of Europe across the Atlantic and sought to gobble up Asia across the Pacific. Finding Japan an obstacle in her path in Asia, the United States schemed to deny Japan her existence and thus brought up on the War of Greater East Asia. The fact was frequently pointed out before and after the outbreak of the war. It has now been established beyond doubt by open utterances by Roosevelt and Churchill in their recent conference with Chiang Kai-shek at Cairo.

War Aims in Contrast

This is a war of aims as well as a war of ideology. A war of ideology is a war between opposing world outlooks, between opposing aims and contentions. Japan's world outlook is based on the ideal of building up durable world peace founded on mutual help and common well-being. She is fighting with the lofty aim of liberating Asia and guaranteeing its security. In sharp contrast, the Anglo-American war aim consists in nothing else but the carrying out of their selfish ends and the enslavement of the world, especially of Asia. The contrast is at once an unmistakable verdict as to which side will win the war of ideology.

Reference may be made to the Atlantic Charter, a statement of the Anglo-American war aim. It opens with a declaration of the principle of so-called territorial non-aggrandizement, a formula for the maintenance of the status quo of Anglo-American making. It is con-

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14 SUBMARINES SUNK BY ARMY, NAVY UNITS IN SEA-AIR CLEAN-UP

Heavy Toll of Undersea Raiders Taken by Japanese Since October

ENEMY SEA LOSS GROWS

Navy Airmen Hit Another Warship in Bougainville Raid Of December 25

Fourteen enemy submarines lurking in the waters in and around Japan and also in other areas were sunk since October up to today by Japanese Navy warships as well as by Army and Naval Air Units, according to a communique issued by Imperial Headquarters at 4 p.m. on December 31.

The communique also added that the damaging of another enemy warship of unidentified category hit by Imperial Naval Air Units attacking the enemy task force in waters north of Bougainville Island on December 25 as previously reported should be added to the war results mentioned.

The Imperial Headquarters announcement follows:

"(1) Imperial Naval warships as well as Army and Naval Air Units sank 14 enemy submarines in the neighboring waters of Japan and in other operational sea areas since October up to today.

"(2) The damaging of another enemy warship (of unidentified category) should be added to the war results obtained by the Imperial Naval Air Units in their attacks on the enemy task force in waters north of Bougainville Island, on December 25, as previously reported."

All Sinkings Confirmed

Of the 14 enemy undersea raiders announced by the Imperial Headquarters as having been sunk since October up to the present, four were sunk during the month of October, five in November and the other five in December.

Confirmation of the sinkings, it may be noted in this connection, is very difficult, but the destruction of the above 14 undersea-craft is absolutely certain as the Japanese fighting units ascertained that some of them were sunk by bombardment after they had emerged on the surface of the sea, finding it unable to remain submerged after they had received severe attacks, while the sinking of others was confirmed by the fact that petroleum and other material were seen floating over a wide area on the sea after the submarines had been attacked with depth-charges.

Prior to the outbreak of the war, the United States possessed only 21 undersea-craft. According to enemy plans, 73 more submarines were to have been built in 1941 and 153 more in 1942. The present number of U.S. undersea-craft is estimated at around 150 or 160.

The number of enemy submarines destroyed by the Japanese Forces since the start of the War of Greater East Asia now reaches 161 while 62 others have been damaged.

Meanwhile, a report has been received from a Japanese plane which made a forced landing at the time when, on December 25, Japanese Navy Air Units, in the area north of Bougainville Island, attacked an American task force that attempted an air-raid on Kavieng, New Ireland, that besides the enemy warship of unknown category which was announced as having been sunk, another enemy warship of unknown category had been torpedoed and set ablaze.

23 BRITISH PLANES HIT IN BERLIN TERROR RAID

Domei

BERLIN, December 30.—Concerning the anti-Axis air raid on Berlin last night, the Fuehrer's Headquarters issued the following announcement today:

1. British bomber plane units again raided Berlin last night, and caused considerable damages in various sections of the city, particularly, residential quarters.

2. At the same time, anti-Axis air forces bombed the western areas in Germany.

3. Despite bad weather, German night fighter planes and ground-batteries, shot down 23 of the invading planes.

PHIBUN REITERATES THAI WAR RESOLVE

We Will Fight to Last With Japan Against Foe, He Says In Radio Message

Stressing the firm bonds of friendship that mark Japan-Thai relations, which find the fate of the two countries inextricably bound together, Premier Field-Marshal Phibun Songkhram in his New Year radio message to the Japanese nation, declared that the Thais are "firmly resolved to stand by Japan until the very last."

Premier Songkhram's message follows:

"My dear friends, the people of Japan, it is indeed a matter of great rejoicing to me that on this New Year's day I have the opportunity to speak to you over the radio which affords me the chance to reach each one of you in the privacy of your homes. It is my intention to speak to you with the same frankness and intimacy as I would to the people of Thailand.

"Candidly speaking, the peoples of Japan and Thailand are of the same race; they are brothers bound by inseparable ties of blood. Greeting the New Year amid the turmoils of war, it is inevitable that all family members will not be able to gather to celebrate the festive season as in times of peace.

"However, the contingencies of the present time demand that even women must march to the front in defense of the motherland, while on the other hand your hearts and thoughts must go out to your fathers, sons, and brothers who are sacrificing their all at the front.

"Taking just pride in the supreme efforts of those whom you have sent to the front, you must firmly believe in the attainment of final victory.

"Your confidence must be strengthened doublefold when you realize that the various peoples of Greater East Asia, united in a single purpose, are cooperating fully with those that are dear to you. The five principles embodied in the Joint Declaration of the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations comprise the sacred charter whereby Japan and her allied nations are inspired to wage to the finish the war of justice and righteousness.

"What I have stated heretofore has been said on the assumption that the same conditions prevail in the Japanese homes as in those of Thailand. As long as Japan and Thailand are allied nations, bound under the same spirit, I am confident that I am not mistaken in what I say.

"Three hundred years ago, even in the days of Japan's closed door policy, Japan had allowed special trade intercourses with Thailand. This was occasioned not only by the close intimacy existing between the peoples of the two nations but by the ever deepening degree of friendship between your country and mine.

"With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Thailand immediately concluded an alliance pact with Japan. Such an act is attributable to the close bonds of friendship existing between the two nations. Since then during the past two years the Thai Army has collaborated and fought through all hardships and privations side by side with the Japanese Forces. In complete self-abnegation and animated by the lofty spirit of undivided service to the State, the men of Thailand's forces are fulfilling their duties.

"On the other hand, the non-combatants are also giving their wholehearted service to augment the nation's economic strength. Furthermore, despite the exposure to danger of their lives on account of the brutal, inhuman war tactics of the enemy, the morale of the Thai people is forever on the rise and we are determined to assist the Japanese Forces until final victory has been won.

"The people of Thailand are well aware that Japan has staked the very destiny of her Empire in this titanic struggle and are firmly resolved to stand by Japan until the very last. The Japanese people on their part have given evidence of their sincere friendship in the return of the Malai and Shan states to Thailand.

"The entire people of Thailand fully understand the Japanese people and their aspirations. I, too, believe that Japan is Thailand's true ally, and, therefore, I make no differentiations between the people of Thailand and those of Japan. The fate of Japan is inextricably bound to that of Thailand.

"In closing, I earnestly pray to the heavenly powers guiding our destinies for the health and well-being of the people of Japan, attainment of final victory by the Japanese Forces and the future prosperity of the Japanese Empire."

Field Marshal Phibun Songkhram, Premier of Thailand

PREMIER LAVAL REFORMS INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION

Darnand Named Chief of Peace Preservation; To Intensify Control Over Rebels

Domei

VICHY, December 30.—Lucien Romier, State Minister, and Rene Bousquet, Secretary-General of Police, submitted their resignations to Premier Pierre Laval, today. Premier Laval thereupon, carrying out an administrative reform, appointed Joseph Darnand, Commander of the Defense Army, as Director-General of Peace Preservation.

Concerning the above reform in internal administration, the Ministry of Information issued the following statement:

"The greatest problem for the Government of France under present conditions is preservation of peace and order. The safety of the French people, the protection of their lives and properties, is absolutely necessary just as is the maintenance of peace and order, and the guarantee of the future of our homeland.

"The French Government is determined to intensify control over the rebels who are responsible for unrest and threats of most detestable character in the cities and villages. Thus, the French Government has decied to strengthen the Ministry of Interior which is engaged in the maintenance of peace and order within the country.

"The Premier is Minister of Interior concurrently, and with the strengthening and reforms in internal administration, he has now been given further authority to adopt proper measures for maintaining peace and order."

PHILIPPINES IS SET FOR BIG TASK AHEAD

Laurel Says P.I. Has Built Solid Internal Setup; Has Faith in Victory

Domei

MANILA, December 31.—Driving home the point that a solid internal structure has been built up since the establishment of the Philippine Republic a little over two months ago, President Jose P. Laurel, in his New Year message, declared, "we reaffirm as we greet the critical year of 1944 to fearlessly promote and defend our national welfare."

In pointing out the convictions of the Filipinos as they enter this decisive year, he stressed, "We face it calmly in the highest of spirits and with firm faith that victory in the battle for justice will go to the righteous. . ."

The text of President Laurel's New Year message follows:

"The Filipinos face the New Year of 1944 firmly resolved to conquer their weaknesses and overcome all difficulties incident to the task of consolidating their newly gained independence.

"Our freedom came in the midst of total war and we are fully aware of the implications of that circumstance. We are determined to relentlessly carry on the campaign to eradicate any and all factors that undermine and threaten the strength and safety of that freedom within the country or from outside. Our Republic is but in its third month and many large problems have still to be overcome.

"However, under the aegis of the sublime and unchallengable philosophy of Greater East Asia, we are confident that there is no problem however big or complicated that we cannot with united efforts and unselfish dedication victoriously solve.

"We are rapidly approaching the state of total mobilization for defense of our means of livelihood, of the integrity of our racial tradition and of our rightful place in the family of nations. We have tackled boldly and with the utmost sincerity of purpose our urgent problems.

"In the period of a little over two months since the establishment of the Republic, we have virtually completed the organization of the new Government, including the inauguration of the Foreign Office. Further efforts to streamline the organization for the maximum of efficiency and economy are now in progress.

"The Government has issued a general amnesty to all political offenders in the conviction that since the national ideal has been realized there need remain no distinction whatever among the Filipinos of all classes and in the political field. All are brothers by race, by nationality, by the flag they honor and love, and by the ideals that move their beings.

"By a systematic campaign of enlightenment and well-considered acts, the Government has brought to the fore the strong sense of brotherhood inherent in the citizenry of this civilized nation. Guided by the same faith and by its unflagging interest in the lot of the poor, the disinherited and the victims of disaster, the Government has given the maximum it can afford—more than 4,000,000 pesos—for public relief and rehabilitation.

"This relief is being administered in a manner that is expected to benefit the greatest number of people possible.

"We have grappled directly with the problem of food. The Food Administration, with ample powers to mobilize all the idle land and manpower for greater production of foodstuff, has been organized, while the problem of medicine, which is vital for the preservation of the people's health, has been given vigorous attention.

"We closed the year which saw the turning point in our history with the official week-long observance of our duties toward our national language, with the observance fittingly ending on the anniversary of the death of our national hero Dr. Jose Rizal. He dreamed, fought and died for the exaltation of his race and for the unification of his people's ideals in heart, in language and in destiny.

"Fortified by his sublime example we reaffirm, as we greet the critical year of 1944, our pledge to fearlessly promote and defend our national welfare.

"For Greater East Asia, as well as for the rest of this embattled world, 1944 may well be the year of destiny. The war for moral justice and equality among all races for reasonable economic opportunity—the War of Greater East Asia—has entered its third year and is swinging mightily toward the inevitable climax.

"The year 1944 may be the year of maximum exertions, of tremendous events and supreme decisions. So be it. We face it calmly in the highest of spirit and with firm faith that victory in the battle for justice will go to the righteous and pure in heart."

BURMA ENVOY LAUDS JOINT DECLARATION

Avers Principles in Covenant Incomparable to Greed Seen In Atlantic Charter

The Joint Declaration adopted at the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations in November in Tokyo made world's history and is the new charter for years to come for its noble and inspiring principles have already unified the people of Greater East Asia, declared Dr. Thein Maung, Burmese Ambassador to Japan, in a New Year's message broadcast over Radio Tokyo yesterday.

"Unlike the Atlantic Charter of Anglo-American pattern so tainted with greed, Asia's Joint Declaration is based on justice and equality," he stressed "and the New Order for Greater East Asia is being guided by master statesmen, peerless in the power and range of intellect to bring happiness to Asia.

Following is Ambassador Thein Maung's speech

"In ringing out the year 1943, and welcoming the year 1944, I have much pleasure to send a message. It is simple and short.—'Time and tide wait for nobody.' The year 1943 has just passed into Eternity—never, never to come back again. I therefore, hail the advent of the New Year 1944 with genuine feelings of hope and faith.

"We ring out the old and ring in the New Year. Do you expect me to say anything new on this auspicious occasion? I do not think so, because if it is true, it may not be new and if it is new, it may not be true.

"But I will say this much; that is at the end of 1943 and just as we are welcoming the New Year 1944, we are still not in sight of peace on earth and good will among mankind contrary to the sincere wishes of all thinking men.

Blames Western Civilization

"The four continents of Asia, Europe, America and Africa and, in fact, every nook and corner of the globe, inhabited by human beings, have been transformed into a veritable scene of carnage, bloodshed and destruction of life and property on a scale unheard of in world's history. This is mainly due to the miserable failure and bankruptcy of Western civilization in its task of leadership.

"The World-War of 1914-1918 was fought to all intents and purposes to end all wars as enunciated by the late President Woodrow Wilson and his compeers in Europe. But it proved to be a huge mockery. The Versailles Conference had its 'Big Four' which dominated the rest of the world. The Council of Great Powers in the League of Nations was supreme and eclipsed the lesser nations.

"Then came the Atlantic Charter formulated by two big nations, America and Britain. It utterly lacks the fundamental principle of constructive statesmanship. It is an undisguised and selfish attempt to impose Anglo-American supremacy upon the rest of the world. It contains no redeeming features of any kind. America and Britain, however, rich and powerful they might have been cannot and will not determine the destinies of other nations in deliberate violation of the inexorable and immutable moral laws.

"The Soul of the East is steeped in the roots of world renowned ethical principles from time immemorial. Hence, all eyes are today turned toward the East for light and guidance.

Asia's Joint Declaration

"In the midst of the present titanic struggle in East Asia which is relentlessly forging its way 'Full speed head' to its ultimate destination, the Representatives of the Great Nations of East Asia assembled in Tokyo in the early part of November 1943 and made history by issuing a Joint Declaration which is destined to prove in world's history, the charter—the new charter for 1943 and after.

"Unlike the Atlantic Charter of the Anglo-American pattern so tainted with greed and cupidity, the Joint Declaration of the Great Nations of East Asia, with Japan as the accredited Leader, is based on the sublime principles of justice, reciprocity, mutual aid and assistance, common economic prosperity, independence, harmony and promotion of culture to create the New Order in East Asia, and thereby ensure peace everlasting for the whole humanity. It is, indeed, a noble and praise-worthy design which has already unified the countries and peoples of Greater East Asia in a remarkable degree.

"The gigantic enterprise of constructing Greater East Asia for the common prosperity of all nations is well under way, guided and steered by master statesmen, peerless in the power and range of intellect, in the spiritual strength of will and moral elevation of aim and purpose—qualities which accord with the principles of natural justice which alone will decide the issue of the world in favor of the East Asiatic Nations.

"Human nature being as it is, man has an infatuation for more things than he requires just as there is the law of demand and supply in the economic sphere. But when one thinks of the help rendered by Japan to Burma and the Philippines to regain their cherished goal of Independence, the recognition given to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, the recent announcement made by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo for the transfer of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, the giving back by Japan to the National Government of China of all the exclusive concessions, the relinquishing of the Shanghai International Settlement, and the Peking Legation Quarter, the withdrawal of extraterritoriality, the transfer of enemy property and the giving of economic assistance, it is evident that there is something which stands over and above the law of economics. It is a baffling and mysterious spiritual revelation so deeply typical of the rhythm and cadence of Eastern thought and Eastern philosophy. It is there existing and manifesting itself throughout the ages. It is but pure expression of complete harmony in the compensation of eternal justice, as propounded in the ideal of universal brotherhood for the construction of the New Order for common existence and common prosperity on the indestructible foundation of ethical principles where your riches will not be taken away by the poverty of others, death will lead to immortality, defeat to victory and those who are last will yet have their insult, shame and disgrace transmuted into a golden triumph.

"I belong to the country of Burma, where every morning everyone prays that his neighbor may be healthy, wealthy and wise and that he may be free from the worries and pin-pricks of life. I, therefore, take this opportunity to wish you all a prosperous and happy New Year and that you may all be healthy, wealthy and wise."

SIX DESTROYERS HIT BY REICH TORPEDOES

British Cruisers Glasgow, Enterprise Damaged in Bay Of Biscay Clash

Domei

LISBON, December 30.—German naval forces inflicted heavy losses on the British navy in the engagement in the Bay of Biscay, which took place from December 27 to 29, the Fuehrer's Headquarters announced today.

The communique, according to a Berlin report, said that the British cruisers Glasgow and Enterprise were damaged, one of which was set ablaze.

German submarines participated in the battle and in audacious attacks torpedoed six British destroyers of which the sinking of five was observed. The loss of the sixth destroyer is believed certain.

It was also reported that in the course of these operations against enemy cruisers which had superior gun power, one German destroyer and two torpedo boats went down with ensigns flying.

U-boats sank another British destroyer off Newfoundland, the announcement added.

On the Eastern Front, the Soviets continued large-scale attacks in the region of Korosten and Berditschev in the Ukraine.

Berlin reports said that the German High Command, in order to avoid unnecessary losses, again applied elastic-defense methods and ordered the evacuation of the town of Korosten, north of Zhitomir, which was carried out according to plans.

East of Zhitomir and east of Berditschev, the German defense was stiffened against determined Soviet attempts to break through.

Fighting in the Vitebsk area, White Russia, remained unchanged generally with the Soviets continuing heavy attacks in a drive aimed at the railway line to Poloszk.

Meanwhile, it is reported that on the Italian front fighting only of local importance occurred on Wednesday.

London reports claimed that the Royal Air Force dropped 2,000 tons of bombs in a raid on Berlin yesterday night, which was described in the dispatch as the heaviest raid since the attack on November 26.

Churchill Reported Better

Domei

LISBON, December 29.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill appears to have recovered, and is shortly scheduled to proceed to a certain place to leisurely recuperate, according to a London dispatch.

Lieutenant-Colonel Katsuji Sasaki, Staff Member of Army Press Section, Imperial Headquarters

All Asiatics Enter New Year Prepared To Smash Anti-Axis

(Continued From Page 1)

about a so-called Mountbatten counter-offensive, to the not unnatural serious displeasure of General Douglas MacArthur, Admiral William Frederic Halsey, and Admiral Chester Nimitz.

Our shift from Guadalcanal Island and the Buna sector in New Guinea made clear the object of our earlier thrusts into these areas. Had the enemy perceived this, he might have anticipated the staggering losses now being inflicted on the American and Australian forces.

The object of our Units that had made the deep thrusts into the Solomons and New Guinea was to facilitate the action of our main forces in the rear. The structure based on the tactics of our forces had been steadily strengthened as time passed.

Enemy Becomes Desperate

How seriously the enemy must have been vexed over this development can be gathered from the desperate tenacity with which he poured out his military strength time after time, no matter how big the sacrifice, since his counter-attack against Rendova Island on June 30 last year and against Nassau Bay in New Guinea. The trenchant attacks invariably delivered by us on land, at sea, and in the air testify eloquently to the indestructible development of the strategy of our main forces.

Short as are the roads from Cape Merkus to Rabaul and from Calcutta to Rangoon, the enemy must remember that they are, whether by land or by sea, all "Roads to Death" for him.

The same may be said of the situation in Europe. The Germans, while engaged in fierce combats with huge Soviet forces, have perfected the Fortress of Europe, an iron defense against an Anglo-American incursion.

When the brazen coward Badoglio committed his treacherous act, the Reich by its traditional blitz tactics, set up a solid defense on the Italian Peninsula and forestalled the Anglo-American machinations for an incursion. The New Year has come round without bringing the establishment of a Second Front, so glibly talked about in the series of anti-Axis confabs. This, it seems, is not so much because the Anglo-American war leaders are vacillating as because they simply stand powerless before the German might.

In view of the decision of the Teheran Conference, however, the Anglo-Americans seem impatient about creating at all costs a Second Front during this year. There are growing signs that the enemy will venture landing operations during the Soviet winter offensive on the Eastern Front. Recent foreign cables report rumors of an Anglo-American intrusion into Europe within the coming 90 days. This, however, may be enemy propaganda with an eye turned to the Soviet winter offensive. Go where the enemy may dare, be it the Atlantic Coast, southern France, or the Balkans, let him try.

Resort to Brutal Tactics

The Anglo-Americans who stop at nothing to attain their selfish ends resorted to indiscriminate bombing raids on Italy and, by such brutal means, secured the surrender of Marshal Badoglio and his coteries. Elated over this development, the enemy became optimistic regarding the future of the war.

This dastardly act of killing the fighting strength of a belligerent nation by the mass slaughter of innocent, defenseless citizens, is savagery of the blackest order. "An angel without, a devil within,"—this Oriental saying may most fittingly be applied to these Anglo-Americans. Becoming fretfully impatient, the enemy has allowed the brute within him to reassert itself, as can be clearly seen in the repeated, large-scale terroristic raids on Berlin and other cities of Germany.

But without a doubt, sore disillusion is in store for the enemy if he thinks that the barbarous tactics employed against the Badoglio regime can be applied against Japan and Germany with the same success. The blood ties of the Axis nations are far too tightly knotted to be loosened an inch by intrigue or terrorism. The enemy can be assured that the strong determination of Japan and Germany will be given striking expression in military operations this coming year.

IV

1,000,000,000 Solidly United

The unity of the 1,000,000,000 peoples of East Asia was integrated at the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations. The Assembly adopted the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration which embodies the basic principles of the enhancement of culture, acceleration of reciprocal economic prosperity and contribution to the progress of all mankind.

Compare this with the so-called Atlantic Charter of Anglo-American drafting. That Charter is but a formula for the brutal Anglo-American domination of smaller States and minority races. In contrast, the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration is a blood-written pledge of the 1,000,000,000 East Asiatics to fight through in a solid unity built up amid gunfire that they might establish a New World Order founded on moral principles. As such, the Declaration is sincere, realistic, and solemn, and stands for a true ideal. It is totally devoid of the propaganda like abstract, beautifully-phrased, unrealistic pronouncements of the Atlantic Charter.

Bound by the ties of this noble blood league, the 1,000,000,000 peoples of East Asia, with the spirit of true comradeship permeating them, are determined to prosecute this sacred campaign for the crushing of their common enemies, the United States and Britain. This fact is most inspiring.

The so-called Anglo-American counter-offensive will increase in tenacity during the New Year of 1944. We are fully cognizant of the gravity of the situation. A large-scale enemy counter-offensive is just what we are anticipating. We are fully determined to deliver a mortal blow upon the foe. The Japanese nation, as a whole, is burning with a strong resolve to dash into the coming decisive battle.

The New Year is here—the year in which Japan's preparedness will be brought into full play—the year of the decisive battle—the year of victory!

Java Chinese Contribute

Domei

PRIANGAN, Java, December 29.—The Overseas Chinese Association raised 100,000 guilders representing the contributions made by all classes of Chinese residents for the Home Defense Fund.

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U.S. Naval Policy Undergoes Change

(Continued from Page 1)

the China Affair the same year, the United States launched upon a big expansion of her navy. The outbreak of the European War spurred this tendency and caused the second and third Vinson plans and the Stark Plan to be mapped out.

The second Vinson Plan worked out in 1938 follows:

		Tons
Capital ships	3	135,000
Aircraft carriers	2	40,000
Cruisers	8	68,754
Destroyers	23	38,000
Submarines	9	13,658
Total	45	295,412

The third Vinson Plan of 1940 follows:

		Tons
Aircraft carriers	3	79,500
Cruisers	5	66,500
Submarines	14	21,000
Total	22	167,000
Special service ships	22	75,000
Airplanes	increased up to 4,500	
Hydro-planes	increased up to 12	

The Stark Plan of June, 1940 follows:

	Tons
Capital ships	385,000
Aircraft carriers	200,000
Cruisers	420,000
Destroyers	150,000
Submarines	70,000
Auxiliary ships	100,000
Total	1,325,000

With the completion of the Stark Plan, the U.S. navy was to have two times and a half as much as the treaty-limit strength.

In a radio address delivered at the end of the year 1940, Chief of Naval Operations Stark revealed that upon the completion of his plan in 1944, the U.S. navy was to have the following strength:

		Tons
Capital ships	32	1,045,000
Aircraft carriers	18	454,500
Cruisers	91	899,524
Destroyers	365	478,000
Submarines	185	172,965
Total	691	3,049,989

Though the number of aircraft carriers was more than half of that of capital ships in this plan, the navy envisaged in the scheme was still on the "big ship, big gun" principle. It is obvious that the construction by the United States of such a big navy was for protecting American imperialism and for increasing her influences in international affairs.

Reduced to Naught

On December 8, 1941, the U.S. Pacific fleet was reduced to naught when Japanese Navy Air Units attacked Pearl Harbor and sank five of the nine battleships including the West Virginia, severely damaged three others, inflicted damages on another and also dealt devastating blows to cruisers.

Four airfields around Pearl Harbor were also reduced to ashes and more than 450 enemy aircraft were razed on the ground.

Two days later, on December 10, our Navy Air Units intercepted the British Asiatic fleet off the coast of Malai and sank instantaneously the "unsinkable" Prince of Wales and the battleship, Repulse. The pom-pom guns of the Prince of Wales which could fire 60,000 rounds of bullets per minute were of no use against the Japanese raiders.

The attacks made by the Imperial Navy Air Units against American air bases in the Philippines simultaneously with the Pearl Harbor attack and the bombing on the Cavite naval port completely smashed the pre-war American plan for anti-Japanese operations by the U.S. navy.

The might displayed by the Imperial Navy Air Units at the initial stage of the war clearly showed that in modern warfare, aircraft constitute an independent battle unit and are by no means an auxiliary weapon as was generally believed before the start of the war.

The world learned once and for all that a fleet, however strong and big, cannot display its might without the command of the air. Command of the air is more important than command of the sea. The United States learned this through her own bitter experiences.

Thirty-six years after the appearance of the Dreadnought, the "big ship, big gun" principle was at last rescrutinized. It is not hard to imagine how great was the shock the Japanese victories gave America's policy of big ships and big guns which she had maintained consistently.

The American authorities inevitably found it necessary to hide from the public the bitter defeats the U.S. fighting services suffered at the hands of the Japanese Forces at the outset of the war, all the more so because they used to boast of America's naval strength before the war. The facts given by Radio Tokyo, however, made the American masses more and more incredulous of their authorities.

U.S. Forms Task Force

War results, only war results could appease the American people. Strategy was now to serve under political considerations in America. United States naval authorities then organized a surprise-attack fleet out of what had remained of American aircraft and some cruisers and destroyers. This is what is known as the American task force on which the bitterly-torn U.S. navy placed much expectation.

The Lexington task force, the first of the kind, however, was sent to the bottom at a stroke by Japanese underseacraft on January 12, 1942, in the waters west of Hawaii.

This naval task force is strategically termed "carrier striking force" and is known as a new aircraft-carrier strategy. The same sort of force was employed in the Battle of the Coral Sea, in the air battle off northeastern New Guinea and in the air raid on Tokyo. But, except in the case of the Tokyo raid, the enemy naval forces in these operations were dealt severe blows by land-based Japanese Navy Air Units.

The repeated defeats suffered by its task forces gave America a lesson that aircraft must be superior in number than in quality. On realizing the importance of land bases, the United States launched counter-offensives in the Solomons and New Guinea areas. Compared with aircraft carriers, land bases are remarkably more useful though they have one weak point in that they must be supplied by seacraft.

If America should succeed in establishing air bases in the Solomons and New Guinea as they wish to do, that is, if it succeeds in gaining control of the air in these areas, then it would not be all together impossible for the Americans to capture the Southern Regions which constitute the source of Japan's fighting capacity and lead this country to defeat.

The series of severe battles in the Solomons and New Guinea areas starting from the landing of American forces on Guadalcanal Island in August of 1942 have been for the purpose of capturing land bases. This struggle to gain land bases reached its climax when the Americans started landing on Cape Torokina on Bougainville and on Cape Merkus on New Britain Island.

In the struggle for land bases, the spheres of aerial control of the contending forces are invariably intersected and naturally the fighting takes on a bitter aspect. Such a strif necessarily entails an enormous trition of aircraft and natura calls for rapid and colossal suppl On some occasions. even airc carriers are employed for suppl land bases. This is attested to the fact that in the six naval bat off Bougainville, the enemy flee were composed mainly of aircraf carriers in all cases, excepting th second battle.

Starts Counter-Thrust

It is understood that in the nava battles off Bougainville, the enemy erroneously believing that the aeria strength in Japanese land base must have been seriously weaken ed, attempted to drive a wedge int the Japanese line of defense in a move to capture Rabaul at a strok

Such an enemy attempt, however proved a failure as the result o America's underestimation of th strength of the Japanese Navy Ai Units. In the fact that plan carriers have assumed more positiv offensive activities than formerly, w notice a marked elevation in th status of aircraft carriers from th auxiliary to the main strength of fleet.

This change in the importance plane carriers is a natural outco of the fact that whether in land b tles or sea warfare, aircraft are very prerequisite to victory. Th fact caused the revision of the tra tional "big ship, big gun" policy a the resultant increase in the numb of plane carriers in the U.S. nav

Such a drastic change of nav policy on the part of the Unit States navy is best illustrated b the formations of enemy fleets whic made their appearances in the fou aerial battles off the Gilbert Islanc and those fought off the Marsha Islands. It is also proved by th revision after the outbreak of th war of the established shipbuilding plans of the United States and the consequent increase in plane carriers.

Since October 21 up to December 25, the U.S. navy lost eight aircraft carriers in the Solomons and New Guinea areas, had three others damaged, lost a total of 20 cruisers and had 20 or 21 others damaged. In the Gilbert and Marshall areas, it lost eight carriers sunk, had five others damaged, four cruisers sunk and four others crippled. In a short span of two months, the U.S. navy lost an astounding total of 16 aircraft carriers sent to the bottom and had eight others damaged. This is illustrative of the fact that the Halsey and Nimitz fleets are composed mainly of plane carriers.

The control of the sea, however, can be gained and maintained primarily by ships; command of the air is no more than a prerequisite to gaining command of the sea. Therefore, the "aircraft carrier first" principle does not necessarily mean the abrogation of the "big ship, big gun" policy.

Stresses Carriers

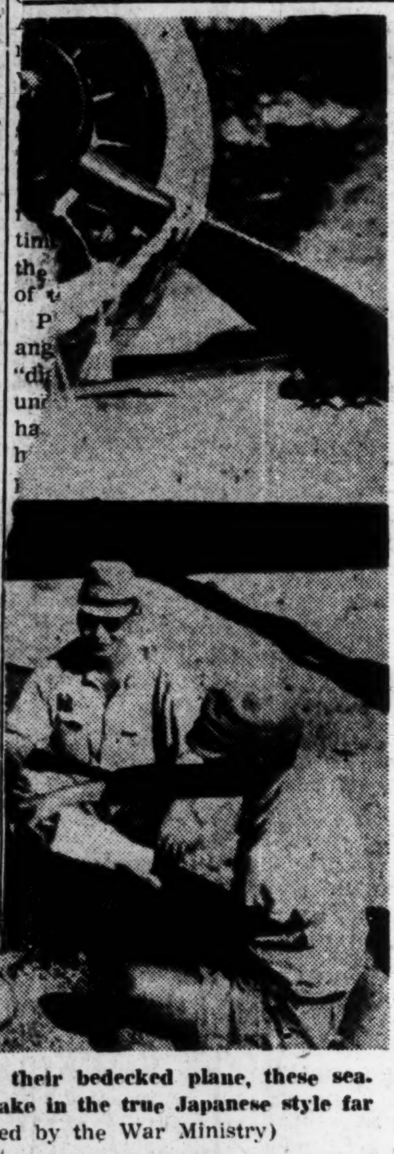
In conclusion, however, we can safely maintain that the U.S. naval policy has undergone a change from the "big ship, big gun" policy to the "aircraft carrier first" principle. The titanic struggle between the two great naval Powers, Japan and the United States, caused this drastic change in naval policy.

For a fleet mainly composed of plane carriers to display its might in naval warfare, its close collaboration with land-based aircraft is

Nip

(SHOWA)

ted in Burma



ore their bedecked plane, these sea- of sake in the true Japanese style far passed by the War Ministry)

STARVATION SCENES IN BENGAL DEPICTED

Suffering Unbelievably Severe, Bombay Chronicle Scribe Writes After Tour

Special to the Nippon Times

RANGOON, January 1.—The weekly death-roll in Bengal is nearer ten thousands than the one or two thousands announced by Leopold Amery, British Secretary of State for India, in the House of Commons, according to an article written by D. K. Karaka, special correspondent of the Bombay Chronicle, which has been received here. The choked walls of starving children fill the night and even dogs are shriveling up because the garbage dumps from which they used to eat are first emptied by human beings dying from hunger, according to Karaka.

The writer, who toured the starvation zones, paints a picture of stark misery, declaring that the suffering is so unbelievably severe that some may believe that the account is too sentimental and dramatized. The situation, however, is so critical, he says, that even the middle classes and the petty shopkeeper, who used to be able to give something to the poor, are no longer able to do so and their women

U.S. fleets and aircraft to hell.

Gibraltar Sees Activities

Domei

LISBON, December 29.—A group of 77 anti-Axis ships wtih 10,000-ton class merchantmen as its nucleus entered Gibraltar Harbor from the Atlantic while another group of 20 vessels left port for the Atlantic area, according to information from Madrid.

harkov Trials to Flatter Soviets

KOJIMA
Correspondent

e three German officers, stating at it offers "the best safeguard gainst indiscriminate vengeance and eneral chaos."

The newspaper PM said that the xecution of the German officers hould be taken as "a notice to the vorld from Moscow that the Soviet Jnion was not fooling when it agreed hat war criminals should face trial and punishment."

Said the Daily Worker, "such crimes must stop. The world must understand that the guilty must be punished."

These comments are amusing because these very organs tried to outdo each other in denouncing the Japanese execution of American fliers. Their memory is so short that they have forgotten the Japanese announcement which said that the American fliers were executed because they were guilty of inhuman conduct violating international law governing warfare and also as a step to preclude the recurrence of such action.

Such a volteface attitude of the American press, however, is not strange considering the unscrupulousness of their leaders in Washington who are now making all out efforts to flatter and cajole the Soviets lest they quit the anti-Axis camp.

Creation of an Ethical World Aim Of Present War

(Continued From Page 4)

merican people nor the British people will be willing enough to accept because they all know how Wilson's 14 Points were trampled upon America herself and how Britain oke its promise to give home rule India.

Americans Disturbed

The recent change in the American strategy against Japan from its mer tactic of a drawn-out ware to a speedy prosecution of war partly due to the mental disturnce of the American people regard the war aims of the United States d partly due to the fear of the nerican war leaders of Japan's id progress in her construction the southern regions. At first the ited States had given up any hope a speedy termination of war havg tasted initial defeat at Pearl arbor. The leaders at that time ought that because of the abunnt material wealth of America, ey could make Japan submit in a olonged war. But recently they me to realize their miscalculation this strategy, so they decided to nish up the war as soon as possile. This explains the frantic and ostly offensives undertaken by the merican forces in the Southern acific. But this change of American strategy has further disclosed he fact that America has no real var aim of which she can boast efore the people. Although the eaders in America have been proessing that this war would protect lemocracy from the Axis attacks, hey have recently publicly declared their intention to annihilate all the races of the Axis camp and have been carrying on a blind bombing of non-combatants, depending on their own abundant supply of steel, and even have gone to the extent of attacking our hospital vessels.

Our Foreign Minister Mr. Shigemitsu has recently declared in outlining Japanese diplomacy that there is no gate in the highways of the world and that there is neither east nor west in moral principles. By this statement, he meant to clarify the universal character of the five principles adopted by the recent Assembly of the East Asiatic Nations. Hitherto, there were innumerable gates in the highways of East Asia and these were wide open only for the Anglo-American peoples but were tight and mercilessly closed against the peoples of East Asia themselves. All this existed side by side with the American policy of the open door in East Asia, the Monroe Doctrine in the western hemisphere and the anti-Japanese immigration law in the United States.

Chungking Enemy Tool

Nor can we say that our Asiatic camp is all united in a single purpose, for Chungking is betraying the rest of the Asiatic peoples by remaining still a tool of the Anglo-American nations. For Burma, the Philippines, the former Dutch Indies, it is absolutely necessary to get rid of the last vestige of Anglo-American influence as a prerequisite to their contructive activities. Fortunately, the leaders of all Asiatic nations recognize the importance of this truth as seen in their recent expressions of views on the occasion of the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations.

It can never be exaggerated that it was Japan's military victories over the enemy camp that has liberated the peoples of East Asia from the Anglo-American domination. The independence of Burma and of the Philippines, the political participation by the native populations in various parts of East Asia and the abolition of unilateral unfair treaties of China—all these were possible because of Japanese victories. The very word of President Wang that without Japan there can be no East Asia was the representative idea of all those who took part in the Assembly, which was like a family meeting. The very absence of any coercive element in the Joint Declaration adopted at the Assembly may be taken as an evidence of the unbounded trust these representatives place in Japan's moral aims and convictions.

The various problems of construction for East Asia must be preceded by the prosecution of the war, for these can only be successfully solved only after we secure a complete victory over the enemies. To win the war—this is the matter of supreme importance for all of us.

Japanese Prepared For Victory Effort

(Continued From Page 1)

of self and of readily sacrificing their lives in times of emergency. Now is the time for the 100 million people of this country, whether on the fighting front or the home front, to do their utmost at their respective posts for the cause of supreme loyalty.

Must Give All to State

"We, subjects of the Empire, cannot but be struck with awe to learn that His Imperial Majesty is graciously solicitous for obliterating the sources of evils in East Asia and thereby establishing a lasting peace in that region. It is incumbent upon us to take always to heart the August Imperial Wishes, to dedicate our all to the State in the spirit of self-sacrifice, mutual assistance and discipline.

"It is heartening to learn that our Allies in Europe, their morale rising ever high, are continuing vigorous fighting against the Anglo-American forces, successfully repulsing all enemy counter-offensives. We resolutely undertake to repel all enemy machinations, solidify our cooperative relations with our Allies and in close collaboration with them, crush America and Britain thereby to realize our common mission.

"We hereby tender our heartfelt gratitude to the various countries and races in Greater East Asia who are making devoted efforts for the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia and the construction of Greater East Asia. We determinedly undertake to expel completely the aggressor nations, America and Britain, in close collaboration with the one billion people of Greater East Asia and to establish a Greater East Asia based on ethical principles, thereby contributing to world peace.

"Now, standing on the threshold of the new year, we do hereby pledge ourselves to abide by the August Imperial Wishes and with ever firmer conviction in victory, devote ourselves to the cause of loyalty and to lead the current war to a complete triumph by smashing ambitious America and Britain in close collaboration with our Allies in East Asia."

New Year Message By Foreign Minister

(Continued From Page 1)

spicuous by the absence of any advocacy for the righting of wrongs and precluding causes of war. It contains neither a concrete policy for the promotion of the welfare of mankind nor a constructive suggestion for the establishment of world peace. The joke is that even the territorial non-aggrandizement principle has been scrapped without scruples by its authors with the progress of the situation.

The enemy leaders have of late, been meeting in conference frequently and invariably publishing resolutions or declarations. Such pronouncements, every one of them, are a scheme to set the victor and the vanquished against each other and an insinuation of peace terms which the one would dictate to the other.

Likewise, the so-called Anglo-American postwar programs, often made public in the past, are no more than propaganda of an illusory victory. By flaunting empty, idealistic-sounding postwar plans, the Anglo-Americans are trying to conceal their aggressive, imperialistic designs. "To conceal is to betray," goes an old saying. In the Cairo declaration and in the speech by General Jan C. Smuts on November 26, our enemies unwittingly betrayed their ambition of world domination and, especially, their real intention to perpetuate aggression and oppression against Asia as they had done for several centuries.

There have been no winners in wars of aggression. The Opium War is the only exception. No matter how fierce the Anglo-American counter-offensive may be in this third year of the War of Greater East Asia and no matter how grim the war of ideology, there can be not the slightest doubt that the loyal Imperial Japanese Forces, under the August Virtue of His Majesty the Emperor, will smash the enemy's infestations on land, at sea and in the air and thereby liberate East Asia and integrate the defense of our homeland.

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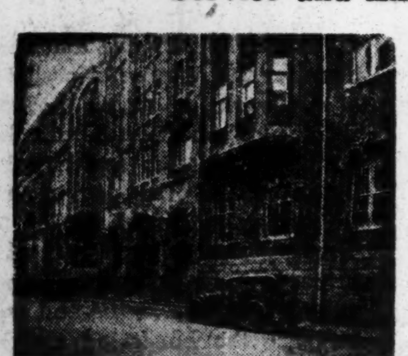

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The OFFICE of the Indian Independence League (Nippon Territorial Committee) has been moved to its new premises at No. 5, Tameike, Akasaka-ku, Tokyo. (Tele: Akasaka (48) 0585, 0586). This office will be in charge of all activities of the LEAGUE branches in Japan, and will represent the Shonan Headquarters of the LEAGUE.

G. Ramchand,
Secretary,
Indian Independence League (Japan).

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CORRECTION

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TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY

U.S. Naval Policy Undergoes Change

(Continued from Page 1)

the China Affair the same year, the United States launched upon a big expansion of her navy. The outbreak of the European War spurred this tendency and caused the second and third Vinson plans and the Stark Plan to be mapped out.

The second Vinson Plan worked out in 1938 follows:

		Tons
Capital ships	3	135,000
Aircraft carriers	2	40,000
Cruisers	8	68,754
Destroyers	23	38,000
Submarines	9	13,658
Total	45	295,412

The third Vinson Plan of 1940 follows:

		Tons
Aircraft carriers	3	79,500
Cruisers	5	66,500
Submarines	14	21,000
Total	22	167,000
Special service ships	22	75,000
Airplanes	increased up to 4,500	
Hydro-planes	increased up to 12	

The Stark Plan of June, 1940 follows:

	Tons
Capital ships	385,000
Aircraft carriers	200,000
Cruisers	420,000
Destroyers	150,000
Submarines	70,000
Auxiliary ships	100,000
Total	1,325,000

With the completion of the Stark Plan, the U.S. navy was to have two times and a half as much as the treaty-limit strength.

In a radio address delivered at the end of the year 1940, Chief of Naval Operations Stark revealed that upon the completion of his plan in 1944, the U.S. navy was to have the following strength:

		Tons
Capital ships	32	1,045,000
Aircraft carriers	18	454,500
Cruisers	91	899,524
Destroyers	365	478,000
Submarines	185	172,965
Total	691	3,049,989

Though the number of aircraft carriers was more than half of that of capital ships in this plan, the navy envisaged in the scheme was still on the "big ship, big gun" principle. It is obvious that the construction by the United States of such a big navy was for protecting American imperialism and for increasing her influences in international affairs.

Reduced to Naught

On December 8, 1941, the U.S. Pacific fleet was reduced to naught when Japanese Navy Air Units attacked Pearl Harbor and sank five of the nine battleships including the West Virginia, severely damaged three others, inflicted damages on another and also dealt devastating blows to cruisers.

Four airfields around Pearl Harbor were also reduced to ashes and more than 450 enemy aircraft were razed on the ground.

Two days later, on December 10, our Navy Air Units intercepted the British Asiatic fleet off the coast of Malai and sank instantaneously the "unsinkable" Prince of Wales and the battleship, Repulse. The pom-pom guns of the Prince of Wales which could fire 60,000 rounds of bullets per minute were of no use against the Japanese raiders.

The attacks made by the Imperial Navy Air Units against American air bases in the Philippines simultaneously with the Pearl Harbor attack and the bombing on the Cavite naval port completely smashed the pre-war American plan for anti-Japanese operations by the U.S. navy.

The might displayed by the Imperial Navy Air Units at the initial stage of the war clearly showed that in modern warfare, aircraft constitute an independent battle unit and are by no means an auxiliary weapon as was generally believed before the start of the war.

The world learned once and for all that a fleet, however strong and big, cannot display its might without the command of the air. Command of the air is more important than command of the sea. The United States learned this through her own bitter experiences.

Thirty-six years after the appearance of the Dreadnought, the "big ship, big gun" principle was at last rescrutinized. It is not hard to imagine how great was the shock the Japanese victories gave America's policy of big ships and big guns which she had maintained consistently.

The American authorities inevitably found it necessary to hide from the public the bitter defeats the U.S. fighting services suffered at the hands of the Japanese Forces at the outset of the war, all the more so because they used to boast of America's naval strength before the war. The facts given by Radio Tokyo, however, made the American masses more and more incredulous of their authorities.

U.S. Forms Task Force

War results, only war results could appease the American people. Strategy was now to serve under political considerations in America. United States naval authorities then organized a surprise-attack fleet out of what had remained of American aircraft and some cruisers and destroyers. This is what is known as the American task force on which the bitterly-torn U.S. navy placed much expectation.

The Lexington task force, the first of the kind, however, was sent to the bottom at a stroke by Japanese underseacraft on January 12, 1942, in the waters west of Hawaii.

This naval task force is strategically termed "carrier striking force" and is known as a new aircraft-carrier strategy. The same sort of force was employed in the Battle of the Coral Sea, in the air battle off northeastern New Guinea and in the air raid on Tokyo. But, except in the case of the Tokyo raid, the enemy naval forces in these operations were dealt severe blows by land-based Japanese Navy Air Units.

The repeated defeats suffered by its task forces gave America a lesson that aircraft must be superior in number than in quality. On realizing the importance of land bases, the United States launched counter-offensives in the Solomons and New Guinea areas. Compared with aircraft carriers, land bases are remarkably more useful though they have one weak point in that they must be supplied by seacraft.

If America should succeed in establishing air bases in the Solomons and New Guinea as they wish to do, that is, if it succeeds in gaining control of the air in these areas, then it would not be all together impossible for the Americans to capture the Southern Regions which constitute the source of Japan's fighting capacity and lead this country to defeat.

The series of severe battles in the Solomons and New Guinea areas starting from the landing of American forces on Guadalcanal Island in August of 1942 have been for the purpose of capturing land bases. This struggle to gain land bases reached its climax when the Americans started landing on Cape Torokina on Bougainville and on Cape Merkus on New Britain Island.

In the struggle for land bases, the spheres of aerial control of the contending forces are invariably intersected and naturally the fighting takes on a bitter aspect. Such a strif[illegible] necessarily entails an enormous [illegible]trition of aircraft and natura[illegible] calls for rapid and colossal suppl[illegible] On some occasions, even airc[illegible] carriers are employed for suppl[illegible] land bases. This is attested to [illegible] the fact that in the six naval batt[illegible] off Bougainville, the enemy flee[illegible] were composed mainly of aircraf[illegible] carriers in all cases, excepting the second battle.

Starts Counter-Thrust

It is understood that in the naval battles off Bougainville, the enemy erroneously believing that the aerial strength in Japanese land bases must have been seriously weakened, attempted to drive a wedge into the Japanese line of defense in a move to capture Rabaul at a stroke.

Such an enemy attempt, however, proved a failure as the result o[illegible] America's underestimation of th[illegible] strength of the Japanese Navy Ai[illegible] Units. In the fact that plan[illegible] carriers have assumed more positiv[illegible] offensive activities than formerly, w[illegible] notice a marked elevation in th[illegible] status of aircraft carriers from th[illegible] auxiliary to the main strength of [illegible] fleet.

This change in the importance [illegible] plane carriers is a natural outco[illegible] of the fact that whether in land ba[illegible]tles or sea warfare, aircraft are th[illegible] very prerequisite to victory. Th[illegible] fact caused the revision of the tra[illegible]tional "big ship, big gun" policy a[illegible] the resultant increase in the numb[illegible] of plane carriers in the U.S. nav[illegible]

Such a drastic change of nav[illegible] policy on the part of the Unit[illegible] States navy is best illustrated b[illegible] the formations of enemy fleets whic[illegible] made their appearances in the fou[illegible] aerial battles off the Gilbert Island[illegible] and those fought off the Marsha[illegible] Islands. It is also proved by th[illegible] revision after the outbreak of th[illegible] war of the established shipbuilding plans of the United States and the consequent increase in plane carriers.

Since October 21 up to December 25, the U.S. navy lost eight aircraft carriers in the Solomons and New Guinea areas, had three others damaged, lost a total of 20 cruisers and had 20 or 21 others damaged. In the Gilbert and Marshall areas, it lost eight carriers sunk, had five others damaged, four cruisers sunk and four others crippled. In a short span of two months, the U.S. navy lost an astounding total of 16 aircraft carriers sent to the bottom and had eight others damaged. This is illustrative of the fact that the Halsey and Nimitz fleets are composed mainly of plane carriers.

The control of the sea, however, can be gained and maintained primarily by ships; command of the air is no more than a prerequisite to gaining command of the sea. Therefore, the "aircraft carrier first" principle does not necessarily mean the abrogation of the "big ship, big gun" policy.

Stresses Carriers

In conclusion, however, we can safely maintain that the U.S. naval policy has undergone a change from the "big ship, big gun" policy to the "aircraft carrier first" principle. The titanic struggle between the two great naval Powers, Japan and the United States, caused this drastic change in naval policy.

For a fleet mainly composed of plane carriers to display its might in naval warfare, its close collaboration with land-based aircraft is [illegible] U.S. fleets and aircraft to hell.

[illegible]harkov Trials [illegible]to Flatter Soviets

[illegible] KOJIMA
[illegible]orrespondent

[illegible]e three German officers, stating [illegible]at it offers "the best safeguard [a]gainst indiscriminate vengeance and [g]eneral chaos."

The newspaper PM said that the [e]xecution of the German officers [s]hould be taken as "a notice to the [w]orld from Moscow that the Soviet [U]nion was not fooling when it agreed [t]hat war criminals should face trial [a]nd punishment."

Said the Daily Worker, "such [c]rimes must stop. The world must understand that the guilty must be punished."

These comments are amusing because these very organs tried to outdo each other in denouncing the Japanese execution of American fliers. Their memory is so short that they have forgotten the Japanese announcement which said that the American fliers were executed because they were guilty of inhuman conduct violating international law governing warfare and also as a step to preclude the recurrence of such action.

Such a volteface attitude of the American press, however, is not strange considering the unscrupulousness of their leaders in Washington who are now making all out efforts to flatter and cajole the Soviets lest they quit the anti-Axis camp.

[C]reation of an Ethical World Aim Of Present War

(Continued From Page 4)

[A]merican people nor the British peo[p]le will be willing enough to accept [illegible] because they all know how Wil[s]on's 14 Points were trampled upon [b]y America herself and how Britain [b]roke its promise to give home rule [to] India.

Americans Disturbed

The recent change in the Amer[ic]an strategy against Japan from its [fo]rmer tactic of a drawn-out war[fa]re to a speedy prosecution of war [is] partly due to the mental distur[ba]nce of the American people regard[in]g the war aims of the United States [an]d partly due to the fear of the [Am]erican war leaders of Japan's [rap]id progress in her construction [of] the southern regions. At first the [Un]ited States had given up any hope [of] a speedy termination of war hav[in]g tasted initial defeat at Pearl [H]arbor. The leaders at that time [th]ought that because of the abun[da]nt material wealth of America, [th]ey could make Japan submit in a [p]rolonged war. But recently they [c]ame to realize their miscalculation [o]f this strategy, so they decided to [fi]nish up the war as soon as possi[b]le. This explains the frantic and [c]ostly offensives undertaken by the [A]merican forces in the Southern [P]acific. But this change of Amer[i]can strategy has further disclosed [t]he fact that America has no real [w]ar aim of which she can boast [b]efore the people. Although the [l]eaders in America have been pro[f]essing that this war would protect [d]emocracy from the Axis attacks, they have recently publicly declared their intention to annihilate all the races of the Axis camp and have been carrying on a blind bombing of non-combatants, depending on their own abundant supply of steel, and even have gone to the extent of attacking our hospital vessels.

Our Foreign Minister Mr. Shigemitsu has recently declared in outlining Japanese diplomacy that there is no gate in the highways of the world and that there is neither east nor west in moral principles. By this statement, he meant to clarify the universal character of the five principles adopted by the recent Assembly of the East Asiatic Nations. Hitherto, there were innumerable gates in the highways of East Asia and these were wide open only for the Anglo-American peoples but were tight and mercilessly closed against the peoples of East Asia themselves. All this existed side by side with the American policy of the open door in East Asia, the Monroe Doctrine in the western hemisphere and the anti-Japanese immigration law in the United States.

Chungking Enemy Tool

Nor can we say that our Asiatic camp is all united in a single purpose, for Chungking is betraying the rest of the Asiatic peoples by remaining still a tool of the Anglo-American nations. For Burma, the Philippines, the former Dutch Indies, it is absolutely necessary to get rid of the last vestige of Anglo-American influence as a prerequisite to their contructive activities. Fortunately, the leaders of all Asiatic nations recognize the importance of this truth as seen in their recent expressions of views on the occasion of the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations.

It can never be exaggerated that it was Japan's military victories over the enemy camp that has liberated the peoples of East Asia from the Anglo-American domination. The independence of Burma and of the Philippines, the political participation by the native populations in various parts of East Asia and the abolition of unilateral unfair treaties of China—all these were possible because of Japanese victories. The very word of President Wang that without Japan there can be no East Asia was the representative idea of all those who took part in the Assembly, which was like a family meeting. The very absence of any coercive element in the Joint Declaration adopted at the Assembly may be taken as an evidence of the unbounded trust these representatives place in Japan's moral aims and convictions.

The various problems of construction for East Asia must be preceded by the prosecution of the war, for these can only be successfully solved only after we secure a complete victory over the enemies. To win the war—this is the matter of supreme importance for all of us.

Gibraltar Sees Activities

Domei

LISBON, December 29.—A group of 77 anti-Axis ships wtih 10,000-ton class merchantmen as its nucleus entered Gibraltar Harbor from the Atlantic while another group of 20 vessels left port for the Atlantic area, according to information from Madrid.

Japanese Prepared For Victory Effort

(Continued From Page 1)

of self and of readily sacrificing their lives in times of emergency. Now is the time for the 100 million people of this country, whether on the fighting front or the home front, to do their utmost at their respective posts for the cause of supreme loyalty.

Must Give All to State

"We, subjects of the Empire, cannot but be struck with awe to learn that His Imperial Majesty is graciously solicitous for obliterating the sources of evils in East Asia and thereby establishing a lasting peace in that region. It is incumbent upon us to take always to heart the August Imperial Wishes, to dedicate our all to the State in the spirit of self-sacrifice, mutual assistance and discipline.

"It is heartening to learn that our Allies in Europe, their morale rising ever high, are continuing vigorous fighting against the Anglo-American forces, successfully repulsing all enemy counter-offensives. We resolutely undertake to repel all enemy machinations, solidify our cooperative relations with our Allies and in close collaboration with them, crush America and Britain thereby to realize our common mission.

"We hereby tender our heartfelt gratitude to the various countries and races in Greater East Asia who are making devoted efforts for the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia and the construction of Greater East Asia. We determinedly undertake to expel completely the aggressor nations, America and Britain, in close collaboration with the one billion people of Greater East Asia and to establish a Greater East Asia based on ethical principles, thereby contributing to world peace.

"Now, standing on the threshold of the new year, we do hereby pledge ourselves to abide by the August Imperial Wishes and with ever firmer conviction in victory, devote ourselves to the cause of loyalty and to lead the current war to a complete triumph by smashing ambitious America and Britain in close collaboration with our Allies in East Asia."

New Year Message By Foreign Minister

(Continued From Page 1)

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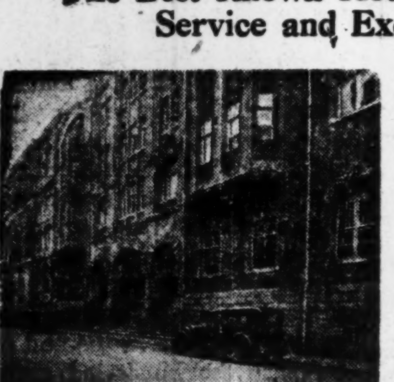

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G. Ramchand,
Secretary,
Indian Independence League
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TOKYO, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1944

The New Year

The year 1944 has dawned on a war-torn world. The advent of the New Year at the present acute stage of warfare is provocative of many thoughts especially because it will in all probability prove the most fateful year in the history of the world. For us, the Greater East Asiatic peoples, however, we can confidently assert that it holds out much hope and encouragement despite the thorny ground which we will have to traverse before we can finally attain our goal. For who can deny that the attainment of our age-old ideals has at no time been nearer realization than at present? During the past two years of the War of Greater East Asia, thanks to the victories of Japan, the peoples of East Asia have succeeded in liberating themselves from the yoke of Anglo-American exploitation under which they had been groaning for many years and have united closely and firmly for the common object of winning the war and constructing the common prosperity region of Greater East Asia in which each can enjoy its proper place.

Many difficulties and hardships may still lie athwart the path of the Greater East Asiatic peoples, but whatever obstacles that may lie ahead are by no means insurmountable for these peoples who are solidly united and are cooperating loyally with their hearts buoyed up by hopes of victory. Yes, they are confident of victory; they have no manner of doubt that the absolutely righteous cause for which they are fighting will triumph in the end. From this conviction springs their unconquerable courage and fortitude which are sure to carry them unscathed through any ordeal which the future may have in store.

On this New Year's Day, our hearts naturally turn most gratefully to our gallant officers and men who are fighting on the far-flung battle lines, far from home, and in the face of all difficulties, and who are achieving no end of brilliant successes, under the benign influence of the Imperial Virtues. It is also with genuine gratification that we note that all on the home front, in full appreciation of the gravity of the situation, are making ceaseless and indefatigable efforts in close unity to enhance the country's fighting strength in every possible way. Firmly persuaded that the third year of the War of Greater East Asia is the year in which the issue of war will practically be decided, all the people are exerting themselves to the utmost in their respective spheres of activity, grimly determined to put up with any amount of hardships and privations until final victory is won. They know this is the time when the whole nation should stand closely united as one man to serve the Emperor and State most faithfully to give the fullest effect to the fervid loyalty and fiery patriotism characteristic of the Yamato race, and all are, in fact, vying with one another in their endeavors to live up to the highest traditions of the nation which has never known defeat in its long history. That such a nation will gain final victory is a foregone conclusion.

In the Imperial Rescript granted at the opening ceremony of the 84th session of the Diet on December 26, His Majesty the Emperor graciously acknowledged the good work being done both by the fighting men at the front and by the civilians on the home front, and, reminding the nation of the most serious phases which the war situation is now developing, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to call upon all His subjects to be of one mind and to put forth their whole energy into the work of crushing the enemy. The whole nation is profoundly struck by this gracious Imperial Rescript and is even more firmly resolved than ever before to answer the Imperial Wishes by smashing the enemy's inordinate ambition speedily, thereby realizing the object of the war.

What this object is, was compendiously embodied in the five principles of the Joint Declaration adopted on November 6, 1943 at the historic Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations held in Tokyo, namely:

"1. The countries of Greater East Asia through mutual cooperation will ensure the stability of their region and construct an order of common prosperity and well-being based upon justice.

"2. The countries of Greater East Asia will ensure the fraternity of nations in their region, by respecting one another's sovereighty and independence and practising mutual assistance and amity.

"3. The countries of Greater East Asia by respecting one another's traditions and developing the creative faculties of each race, will enhance the culture and civilization of Greater East Asia.

"4. The countries of Greater East Asia will endeavor to accelerate their economic development through close cooperation upon a basis of reciprocity and to promote thereby the general prosperity of their region.

"5. The countries of Greater East Asia will cultivate friendly relations with all the countries of the world, and work for the abolition of racial discriminations, the promotion of cultural intercourse and the opening of resources throughout the world, and contribute thereby to the progress of mankind."

The liberated Greater East Asiatic peoples are solemnly pledged to make a united effort to attain the objects enumerated in the above-mentioned principles, and this grand undertaking, for which the foundations are firmly laid already, bids fair to be well-nigh, if not completely, accomplished during the coming year. Likewise in Europe, Germany and the other Axis allies of Japan are consolidating the foundations of a new order which will establish a new era of progress and enlightenment to benefit the whole world. The New Year, though opened amid the din and confusion of war, is thus full of hope for the future, and we can, therefore, with all sincerity and truth wish all our friends of Greater East Asia and throughout the rest of the world a Happy New Year.

Visit to the Ise Shrine

The tingling sound of horse-bells and cheerful laughter made me look out of the window, and there I saw four horses, decorated with red, white, and purple stuffs; and the men on the horses, in travelling outfit, were surrounded by a cheering crowd of men and women, young and old, who were wishing them a happy trip to Ise, as they made their way to the station.

ISE MAIRI

The barley is growing tall, but the rice-
Seed has not yet been sown; rape and
Peach-blossom are in full bloom.

Now is the time to visit the Ise Shrine
In by-gone days we used to spend ten
Days in travelling there, with a change
Of palanquin at fifty-three stages, but
Today one day's journey in the train
Takes us to Ise.

With his old hat worn on one side, and
Wrapped in a red blanket, he marched
Gaily to the lively sound of the horse-
Bells.

"Well, Tarosakusan, are you off?"
"Ah. O Matsu San is that you? I
Shall soon be back; what shall I bring
You from Ise?"

"Oh, I don't want anything; but pray,
Listen to me: Matsuzaka in Ise is
Celebrated for its beautiful girls. Don't
Fall in love with any of them, but come
Back safely and soon!"

There was more laughter, the horse
Bells sounded gaily and soon they were
Out of sight in the haze.

(From Tokutomi Roka's "Nature and Man.")

A Year Ago Today

January 1, 1943

Squadrons of fighters and bombers of the Imperial Army made a surprise raid over Kanchou, a stronghold of the Chungking forces 300 kilometers south of Nanchang in Kiangsi Province. The airfield and other important military facilities at Kanchou as well as supply depots on the opposite bank of the Kan River were heavily bombed and machine-gunned.

* * *

In explanation of the United States army plan for mobilizing 7,500,000 soldiers and 650,000 officers by the end of 1943, which is being subjected to severe criticism by various quarters, General George C. Marshal, Chief of the General Staff of the United States, stated that even an army of that strength is not enough in view of the war situation all over the world.

* * *

Openly revealing the painfulness of the blow sustained by the Chungking regime when the Imperial Forces blocked the Burma route by occupying Lashio on April 29, 1942, the possibility of reopening the route has become the subject of heated discussion between Chungking spokesmen and influential Americans.

* * *

The recent air raids on Calcutta by Japanese Air Units have dealt an unusually great shock on British residents in India, and the Manchester Guardian states that such bombings, if repeated, will surely have more or less serious results.

AS TOKYO SEES IT

The Greater East Asia Declaration

By Asiaticus

(This is the first of the series of articles by Asiaticus under the title "As Tokyo Sees It" on current diplomatic and political developments. In the future, other articles by Asiaticus on important international events will appear from time to time. These articles should commend themselves to the readers for their commanding views and penetrating analysis.)

THIS column which makes its debut today is to be devoted mostly to the discussion of current events and the presentation of world affairs and problems, "As Tokyo Sees It." We are reminded of our Foreign Minister's radio address of December 11, in which he gave expression to the lines of thoughts underlying the Joint Declaration of the Greater East-Asia Assembly and dwelt at length on the fundamental differences between the war aims of our enemies and those of our own. The subject of war aims constitutes the biggest world issue now before us, upon which hangs the fate of mankind. In the face of the barrage of propaganda coming from Washington and London, we feel it our duty to do our share in returning the fire. For our ammunition the best we can do is to rely, to a large measure, upon restatements and quotations of our Minister's words, for he speaks with the authority of his wisdom and understanding as well as of his exalted post.

This war means great changes throughout the world. And the greatest of all changes are to be witnessed in Asia. Burma and the Philippines have become independent states; the Provisional Government of Free India has come into being; the Arab countries, too, are up and astir demanding self-rule. Asia from end to end is on the move. At this juncture, it is the Assembly of the Greater East-Asiatic Nations that has laid a corner-stone for the inauguration of a new era in East Asia and, at the same time, enunciated the fundamental principles of world peace and provided a definite plan for a truly equitable world order to be erected in the future. Its Joint Declaration is a statement of a great constructive policy for an enduring peace of the world based upon justice. It differs basically in its motive and spirit from the Atlantic Charter which aims solely at preserving the same old Anglo-Saxon world supremacy politically, economically and ideologically. It differs from the avowed Anglo-American policy, which envisages collaboration only among the signatory nations and their confederates during and after the war, clinging throughout to the notion of a world divided into two opposing camps and subjugation by force of the one by the other.

Compare or contrast these with the five point objectives of the Joint Declaration which may be briefly stated as follows:

1. Stabilization of Greater East Asia and promotion of common prosperity.
2. Fraternity of nations on the basis of respect for one another's sovereignty and independence through mutual assistance and amity.
3. Enhancement of culture and civilization by respecting one another's traditions and developing the creative faculties of each race.
4. Economic development through close cooperation in accordance with the principle of reciprocity.
5. Friendly relations with all the countries of the world: abolition of racial discrimination; promotion of cultural intercourse and the opening of resources throughout the world.

Of the above five points, the first four set forth the principles of cooperation for the nations of East Asia in the task of promoting common prosperity in their region, while the fifth point calls for the adoption and application of the same principle throughout the world.

Our Foreign Minister enumerates five concepts which underlie the Joint Declaration. His comments serve to elucidate the somewhat laconic expressions of the Declaration and bring out vividly the objectives of Japan and other East-Asiatic nations.

The first concept is that Asia should no longer remain a colony or semi-colony of the Anglo-Saxons, but it should be restored to the Asiatics. That the Western countries were able to invade and exploit Asia for centuries is traceable to no other cause than the fact that those countries had gone ahead of Asia in the art of modern warfare. There is nothing in the spiritual culture that justifies Occidental domination of Asia. It is only the fault of Asia that it had fallen into a lethargic sleep under the spell of its ancient civilization and did not awake to the new trends of world progress, and in the end allowed itself to be subdued, divided and ruled. Thus, its glorious traditions were ignored; its cultural and creative spirit suppressed; and its life dispossessed of dignity and honor. At a critical moment when the menace to Asia's existence was greatest, Japan, rising in self-defense, led the way toward its liberation by eliminating Anglo-Saxon influence and by inaugurating her new East Asia policy. It is this policy which has resulted in the annulment of all unequal treaties between Japan and China in an agreement for the withdrawal of all Japanese troops in China with the restoration of general peace. The same policy has led to the independence of Burma and the Philippines and the recognition of the Provisional Government of Free India and also the participation of the natives in government in Java, Borneo, and Celebes. It is still a long way to the liberation of Asia as a whole. But at any rate, it has been demonstrated beyond dispute that the current war is a war of liberation, and that the Joint Declaration had laid a corner-stone for the reconstruction of East Asia.

The second is the constructive idea—the concept that Asia, once free, should rise again and there should be constructed a new East Asia. In the first place, the various subject nations in the region should recover their sovereignty and independence, which are to be mutually respected by one another. Then, they should establish relations of equality politically, and of reciprocity economically. It is on such a basis that they may foster neighborliness and amity among themselves.

The third is the concept of safeguarding the liberated areas from being once more subjected to external aggression and exploitation, which would be intolerable for the peoples of East Asia. The defense of East Asia means the defense of our homeland. It also means the safeguarding of its culture and the enhancement of its spiritual heritage. Herein lies the reason why the Joint Declaration lays stress upon the preservation of East Asia's traditions and the enhancement of its culture.

The fourth concept is that in the economic and cultural fields, there should prevail throughout the world, freedom and the open door principle so that nations may minister to one another's needs. Accordingly, we advocate free access to material resources, freedom of trade and communications, and unlimited cultural interchanges. We uphold also the freedom of the seas. It is along these lines that the life of mankind should be moulded so as to eliminate, as much as possible, the causes of conflict.

The fifth concept is that the principles of equality and reciprocity should be extended to govern all international relations throughout the world. While the nations of East Asia desire to realize common prosperity and well-being in accordance with the principles of equality and reciprocity, we intend and demand the extension of these principles to the rest of the world. All nations, irrespective of size or strength, should be accorded, we believe, an equal treatment and governed by the principle of reciprocity.

We likewise uphold the principle of racial equality. Without the abolition of racial discrimination there can be no true liberation of East Asia, nor can there be hope for world peace.

These, then, are the thoughts underlying the Joint Declaration, to which our Foreign Minister has given expression. Taken together with the Joint Declaration, we have here a fairly complete presentation of the aims and aspirations of the East Asiatic nations in the current war. In brief, what East Asia wants is to be let alone—to be free from alien domination and exploitation. Today, we are fighting, as fight we must, to defend our homelands against America and Britain who are waging upon us their colonial war for power, for expansion and for exploitation. In fact, we are fighting for the freedom of Asia. We want to bring about an era of common prosperity and progress in our region by mutual respect of one another's sovereignty and independence, by cultivation of neighborly and amicable relations, and by close cooperation, economic and otherwise, on the basis of equality and reciprocity. Moreover, we want to carry on friendly intercourse with all other nations along the same lines and on the basis of the same principles of equality and reciprocity, establishing thereby a truly equitable and enduring peace in the world.

We are not thinking of conquest nor oppression. We are not thinking of interfering with other peoples, nor of policing the world, nor punishing anybody. The Atlantic Charter is merely an appeal by America and Britain to rally other nations around them for the purpose of perpetuating the Anglo-Saxon domination of the world, of which the biggest victim is to be Asia. Their "principles" and "ideals" are sheer camouflage to cover the sinister design of America and Britain to herd together their satellites, the so-called "peace-loving nations" under their whip and dictate to the entire world in the years to come. Their "freedom," "justice," "morality," and what not are all designed to help preserve Anglo-American supremacy. There cannot be any doubt as to which side in the end will bear away the victory, when we compare the blustering and bullying, the shameless hypocrisy and the preposterous claims and contentions of our enemies with the simplicity, the restraint and the genuine honesty of purpose that mark the Joint Declaration.

Creation of an Ethical World Aim of Present War

Joint Declaration of East Asian Leaders Illustrates Progressive and Constructive Ideals for New Order

By BUNROKU YOSHIOKA
(From the Jikyoku Joho)

The object of the War of Greater East Asia is to wipe out all the influences of the Anglo-American nations from the face of East Asia and to construct the Asiatic Common Prosperity Region based upon moral ideals. Thus, although the present war is a means to the realization of the constructive purpose of creating an ideal condition in East Asia, we are face to face with the grim reality that there can be no moral emancipation or Common Prosperity for East Asia, unless we first win this war against our enemies. For all we have achieved can be permanently secured only on the condition of our victory against the Anglo-American nations. Thus, our primary object is to win the war and all constructive projects should be considered as means to this supreme end.

The Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations recently held in Tokyo had the twofold objective of winning the war and of carrying out the projects of peaceful construction. The achievement of this historic assembly is expressed by the joint declaration of the six nations which participated in this meeting—a declaration which may be fittingly called "the Greater East Asiatic Constitution." According to the communique issued by the secretariat of the Assembly on November 6, this joint declaration was made after a frank exchange of opinions among the representatives of the six nations which participated in the meeting and for this reason the five principles mentioned by the Joint Declaration are the constructive program of East Asia as well as measures for the prosecution of the present war.

The Five Principles

They are:

1. The countries of Greater East Asia through mutual cooperation will ensure the stability of their region and construct an order of common prosperity and well-being based upon justice.

2. The countries of Greater East Asia will ensure the fraternity of nations in their region, by respecting one another's sovereignty and independence and practising mutual assistance and amity.

3. The countries of Greater East Asia by respecting one another's traditions and developing the creative faculties of each race, will enhance the culture and civilization of Greater East Asia.

4. The countries of Greater East Asia will endeavor to accelerate their economic development through close cooperation upon a basis of reciprocity and to promote thereby the general prosperity of their region.

5. The countries of Greater East Asia will cultivate friendly relations with all the countries of the world, and work for the abolition of racial discriminations, the promotion of cultural intercourse and the opening of resources throughout the world, and contribute thereby to the progress of mankind.

It should be noted that none of the five principles refers to a military alliance or a coercive international agreement and not even to any economic bloc. These are unchanging principles and ideals far detached from warlike intentions. But these must contribute to the prosecution of the present war, if they are to be useful principles.

The warlike character of the foregoing five principles is shown in the preamble to the Joint Declaration, in its explanation of the reasons for them. After stating that "to assure each nation its place in the family of nations, and to enable it to enjoy through mutual aid the common prosperity of all, is the fundamental condition of world peace," the Declaration goes on to say: "Both Britain and the United States, contrary to such an ideal, have been suppressing and exploiting other nations for their own prosperity, enslaving their peoples to such an extent that its stability has been entirely overturned. This is the cause of the present conflict. We, the nations of East Asia, shall endeavor to prosecute the war for the purpose of emancipating ourselves from the Anglo-American yoke and of assuring our own self-defense."

It will be clear that the foregoing stress the importance of winning the war as an essential condition for both the construction of Greater East Asia and the establishment of world peace. Although the fundamental need of the world is mutual aid among the nations for their common prosperity, this has been totally disregarded by the Anglo-Saxon nations, and for this reason we should eradicate their influence from Greater East Asia by the force of arm. The above-mentioned five principles are based on this logic. The fact that these principles never mentions any military or other coercive measure of any kind adds to its special value.

Although all of the five principles enjoy an equal importance the first principle may be regarded as a general principle while the following three comprise their separate principles and the last is the application of the three principles to the whole world.

Progressive Ideals

The progressive nature of the five principles may be clarified by a historical review of recent events in the world. The great ideal of establishing a moral nation or a moral world first took the form of a new order in East Asia at the time of the Manchuria Incident, a counter-attack on the Washington Treaty and the Nine-Power Treaty which comprised the Anglo-American domination in East Asia. The sequence to the China Affair and then to the Greater East Asia War came to mean not only Japan's counter-attack upon Britain and the United States but also a general and united counter-attack of the 100 million peoples of East Asia. It is generally known that the Manchuria Incident gave a big impetus to the rise of Germany against the Versailles Treaty and to the rise of the Fascist regime in Italy. The tripartite alliance between Japan, Germany and Italy then encouraged the attempts in both East Asia and Europe of establishing a new order to a higher movement of creating a new world order.

From the moral standpoint, we have already won the present war against the Anglo-American nations, as expressed in the superiority of our war aims over the enemies' war aims. At the outset of the war, the United States succeeded in arousing the national indignation of her people by means of the slogan "Remember Pearl Harbor", which hinted that this country made a cowardly surprise attack on the enemies. However, with the passing of time, the American people came to understand that the real cause of the war is to be found in the overmastering ambitions of the American politicians themselves, and this has inevitably resulted in a kind of scepticism among them concering their war aims. It has become increasingly difficult for the American war leaders to drag their people to the prosecution of this war which is so grimly bitter and costly, by giving them such war aim as protection of democracy or of liberty. The Atlantic Charter which was drafted by the combined efforts of the war leaders in Britain and America is only a revised edition of President Wilson's 15 Points for the solution of the first European War. Moreover, it cannot be a world constitution because its application to India has been excepted. It is far inferior to our five principles in respect to moral ideals and the scale of applicability. Even supposing for argument's sake that the Atlantic Constitution is a world scheme of construction neither the

(Continued on Page [illegible])